



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 525  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2766  
PHONE: (213) 974-8301 FAX: (213) 626-5427

J. TYLER McCAULEY  
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

February 21, 2007

TO: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: J. Tyler McCauley *tm*  
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – GAY AND  
LESBIAN ADOLESCENT SOCIAL SERVICES, ARLINGTON GROUP  
HOME, HERBERT BENTON YOUTH HOME, STEPHEN GABIN YOUTH  
HOME, CHARLES PIERCE YOUTH HOME, SUMMER'S LICATA  
YOUTH HOME, AND WILTON GROUP HOME**

We have completed a review of Arlington Group Home, Herbert Benton Youth Home, Stephen Gabin Youth Home, Charles Pierce Youth Home, Summer's Licata Youth Home, and Wilton Group Home (Group Home or Agency) operated by Gay And Lesbian Adolescent Social Services, Incorporated. Each Group Home contracts with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation).

Arlington, Herbert Benton, Stephen Gabin, Charles Pierce, and Summer's Licata Group Homes are each six-bed facilities, which provide care for children ages 6-18 years who exhibit behavioral, social, and emotional difficulties. Wilton Group Home is a twelve-bed facility, which provides care for children ages 6-18 years who exhibit behavioral, social, and emotional difficulties.

At the time of the monitoring visit, Arlington Group Home was providing services for four DCFS/Probation children and two San Bernardino County children. Herbert Benton Youth Home was providing services for four DCFS children and two Probation children. Stephen Gabin Youth Home was providing services for three DCFS children, one Probation child, one San Bernardino County child, and one Madera County child. Charles Pierce Youth Home was providing services for four Probation children, one San Bernardino County child, and one Ventura County child. Wilton Group Home was

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

providing services for six DCFS children, three Probation children, one Madera County child, and one San Diego County child.

Arlington, Herbert Benton, Stephen Gabin, Charles Pierce, and Summer's Licata Group Homes are located in the Second District. Wilton Group Home is located in the Third District.

### **Scope of Review**

The purpose of the review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. Additionally, the review covers basic child safety and licensing issues and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, a facility inspection, and interviews with children placed in the Group Home at the time of the review. Interviews with children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the program services provided by the Agency and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

### **Summary of Findings**

Arlington, Herbert Benton, Stephen Gabin, Summer's Licata, and Wilton Group Homes are providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. A corrective action plan for these five homes is not necessary at this time.

Charles Pierce Youth Home needs to maintain current Needs and Services Plans.

Attached is a detailed report of the review.

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendations made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Mike Pirolo at (626) 293-1110.

JTM:MP:CC:asl

[http://auditor.co.la.ca.us/group\\_home.asp](http://auditor.co.la.ca.us/group_home.asp)

### **Attachments**

c: David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer  
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, DCFS  
Robert B. Taylor, Chief Probation Officer  
Teresa DeCrescenzo, Executive Director, Gay And Lesbian Adolescent Social Services  
Audit Committee  
Public Information Office

**G.L.A.S.S.**  
**Arlington Group Home**  
**2254 West 25th Street**  
**Los Angeles, California 90018**  
**Phone: (323) 732-0612**  
**License Number: 191800133**  
**Rate Classification Level: 12**

**G.L.A.S.S.**  
**Herbert Benton Youth Home**  
**1187 South Longwood Avenue**  
**Los Angeles, California 90019**  
**Phone: (323) 9301878**  
**License Number: 197600436**  
**Rate Classification Level: 12**

**G.L.A.S.S.**  
**Stephen Gabin Youth Home**  
**1708 5th Avenue**  
**Los Angeles, California 90019**  
**Phone: (323) 989-0122**  
**License Number: 198204427**  
**Rate Classification Level: 12**

**G.L.A.S.S.**  
**Summer's Licata Youth Home**  
**1808 South St. Andrews Place**  
**Los Angeles, California 90019**  
**Phone: (323) 730-0640**  
**License Number: 191800487**  
**Rate Classification Level: 12**

**G.L.A.S.S.**  
**Wilton Group Home**  
**1816 North Wilton Avenue**  
**Los Angeles, California 90028**  
**Phone: (323) 962-6127**  
**License Number: 191801249**  
**Rate Classification Level: 12**

## **I. Facility and Environment**

### **Method of assessment – Observation**

#### **Comments:**

Arlington, Herbert Benton, Stephen Gabin, Summer's Licata, and Wilton Group Homes are located in residential communities. The exteriors of the Group Homes are well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped.

The interiors of the Group Homes are well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Homes. The Group Homes provide a home-like environment.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Homes maintain age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Homes maintain a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**  
**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

## **II. Program Services**

### **Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: Two**

#### **Comments:**

Children meet each Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The treatment team develops and implements the Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) with input from the child. The NSPs are current, comprehensive, and include short and long term goals.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

#### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

## **III. Educational and Emancipation Services**

### **Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: Two**

#### **Comments:**

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs and are progressing satisfactorily in school. Each Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help, and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

#### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

#### **IV. Recreation and Activities**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: Two**

**Comments:**

The Group Homes provide children with sufficient recreational activities and leisure time. Children are provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities.

Children participate in extra-curricular, enrichment, and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Homes provide transportation to and from the activities.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

#### **V. Psychotropic Medication**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents**

**Comments:**

Children have current court authorizations for psychotropic medication. Documentation confirms that children are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist.

Children are informed about their psychotropic medication and are aware of their right to refuse medication.

Medication distribution logs are properly maintained.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

#### **VI. Personal Rights**

**Method of assessment – Interviews with children**

**Sample size: Two**

**Comments:**

Children are informed about each Group Home's policies and procedures. Children report that they feel safe in each Group Home and are provided with appropriate staff supervision. Children express satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff and report that staff treats them with respect and dignity.

Children report that they are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are able to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail, and have private visitors. Children are able to attend religious services of their choice.

Children report that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Children report satisfaction with meals and snacks.

Children receive voluntary medical, dental, and psychiatric care.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**VII. Clothing and Allowance**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: Two**

**Comments:**

The Group Homes provide appropriate clothing, items of necessity, and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Homes provide children with the required minimum weekly allowance. Children spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Homes provide children with adequate personal care items. The children are also encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**G.L.A.S.S.  
Charles Pierce Youth Home  
439 South Serrano Avenue  
Los Angeles, California 90020  
Phone: (323)385-4443  
License Number: 197603546  
Rate Classification Level: 12**

**I. Facility and Environment**

**Method of assessment – Observation**

**Comments:**

Charles Pierce Youth Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped.

The interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**II. Program Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: Two**

**Comments:**

Children meet the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement. However, there are no current Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) in the children's files.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

**Recommendation**

1. Gay and Lesbian Social Services management maintain current Needs and Services Plans in the children's case files.

**III. Educational and Emancipation Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: Two**

**Comments:**

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help, and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**IV. Recreation and Activities**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: Two**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities and leisure time. Children are provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities.



Children participate in extra-curricular, enrichment, and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**V. Psychotropic Medication**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents**

**Comments:**

Children have current court authorizations for psychotropic medication. Documentation confirms that children are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist.

Children are informed about their psychotropic medication and are aware of their right to refuse medication.

Medication distribution logs are properly maintained.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**VI. Personal Rights**

**Method of assessment –Interviews with children**

**Sample size: Two**

**Comments:**

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. Children report that they feel safe in the Group Home and are provided with appropriate staff supervision. Children express satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff and report that staff treats them with respect and dignity.

Children report that they are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are able to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail, and have private visitors. Children are able to attend religious services of their choice.

Children report that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Children report satisfaction with meals and snacks.

Children receive voluntary medical, dental, and psychiatric care.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**VII. Clothing and Allowance**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size: Two**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity, and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum weekly allowance. Children spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items. The children are also encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**



**PRESIDENTS EMERITUS**

Betty Berzon, Ph.D. - 1985-1988  
Stan W. Ziegler, Ph.D. - 1989-1994  
(1950-1995)  
Richard L. Wulfsberg, M.D. - 1995-1996

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Madelaine Stoner, Ph.D.  
Chair of the Board

Fernando Diaz, ASID  
Vice Chair

Michael Ruvo  
Secretary

Steven Afriat

H. Aaron Aronow, M.D.

J.L. Habel  
Treasurer

Ella Mathes

Dr. Joel Weisman

Thomas Hunter Russell  
Legal Counsel

Teresa DeCrescenzo, M.S.W.  
Executive Director

Sharon Kidd, LMFT  
Associate Executive Director

Candace Rhue, Group Home Audit Supervisor  
Department of Audit Controller  
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 W. Temple St., Room 515-A  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

August 14, 2006

RE: Charles Pierce Youth Home #197603546, Corrective Action Plan

**Recommendation:**

1. Gay and Lesbian Adolescent Social Services management, maintain current Needs and Services Plan.

CAP: One file was found that did not have an up-to-date needs and services plan, which are updated quarterly and submitted along with the Quarterly Reports to the County Workers. This has since been updated. The Needs and Service Plans are done by the Group Home Social Worker in conjunction with the County Worker and Client input and appropriate signatures are obtained. The Group Home Residential Director, Michael Marchand, oversees the Group Home Social Workers and holds the case staffings (to review clients progress and get input for new goals and/or progress on old goals). The County Worker, client, families, etc. are invited to attend to give their input. The Quality Assurance Person responsible for overseeing that the client files are maintained and kept current is the Assistant Director of QA, Sandra Rahn. I also make sure that all CAPs are being implemented.

GAY AND LESBIAN  
ADOLESCENT  
SOCIAL SERVICES, INC.  
650 N. Robertson Blvd.  
Suite A  
West Hollywood, California  
90069-5022  
(310) 358-8727  
FAX (310) 358-8721  
Email: info@glassla.org

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Rahn  
Assist. Director of QA

